Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00467 191707Z ACTION MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 OC-06 CTME-00 PRS-00 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-05 FAA-00 WRDE-00 PM-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 PA-01 /103 W
-------101366 191710Z /42

Z O 191650Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 7288

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS FLASH

INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PAIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL NICOSIA 0467

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS, CY

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING - SITREP THREE OF FEBRUARY 19

REF NICOSIA 0466

1. FOLLOWING SITREP AS OF FEBRUARY 19, 1640Z HOURS: CBC REPORTED THAT AIRCRAFT LANDED 1540Z AT LARNACA AIRPORT. TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO LAND AT DAMASCUS AND NOW CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00467 191707Z

REFUSING TO PERMIT ANY PERSONS EXCEPT DR. VASSOS LYSSARIDES TO APPROACH AIRCRAFT.

2. EMBOFFS AT AIRPORT CONFIRM ABOVE AND ADD THAT LYSSARIDES AND PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER AND IN COMMUNICATION WITH TERRORISTS ABOARD PLANE. PLANE SITUATED DIRECTLY IN FRONT AIR TERMINAL. REGULAR POLICE ARE ON AIRPORT

PREMISIS, BUT NO MILITARY PERSONNEL OBVIOUSLY PRESENT. SEVERAL GOVERNMENT MINISTERS IN AIRPORT TERMINAL.

3. POLICE CHIEF ANTONIOU HAS REPORTEDLY STATED THAT GOC IS PREPARED TO ATTACK AIRCRAFT IF THAT BECOMES NECESSARY. HE ADDED CAUTIONARY NOTE THAT IF GOC DOES INDEED ATTACK AIRCRAFT, REPRISALS BY ELEMENTS FRIENDLY TO THE TERRORISTS MIGHT WELL BE TAKEN AGAINST INSTALLATIONS IN CYPRUS SUCH AS HILTON HOTEL AND CERTAIN ARAB REPRESENTATIONS. CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Subject: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING - SITREP THREE OF FEBRUARY 19

TAGS: PINS, CY, (LYSSARIDES, VASSOS)
To: STATE DAMASCUS

Type: TE

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